

BRIEF NOTE

A NOTE ON THE ALTERNATE SHELTERS OF COFFEE BERRY  
BORER BEETLES

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The Coffee berry borer *Hypothenemus hampei* (Ferrari) the most dreaded primary pest of coffee in many of the coffee growing countries, was detected in India during February 1990. (Vinodkumar *et al.* 1990). So far there is no record of any alternate hosts where *H. hampei* completed its life cycle. Chesquiere of Le Pelley (1968) has reported the presence of different stages of berry borer in the leguminous plant *Dialium lacourtiana*. The pest has also been recorded to take shelter or feed on certain other leguminous shrubs like *Tephrosia* sp., *Crotalaria* sp., *Centrosema* sp., *Caesalpinia* sp., *Leucaena glauca*, *Rubus* sp., *Phaseolus lunatus*, seeds of *Hibiscus* sp., and berries of *Vitis lanceolaria*, *Liqustrum pubinerve* and *Oxycanthus* sp (Le Pelley, 1968). During the course of studies in the last 3 seasons on *H. hampei*, the authors found the seeds of the following plants as alternate shelters of this pest.

*Eugenia uniflora*, L. (Surinam cherry)

*Duranta repens* Linn. syn *D. Plumieri*, Jacq.

*Crotalaria juncea*, Linn.

*Lantana camara*, Linn.

However in none of the above, berry borer was found breeding. For further confirmation, the seeds of the above trees were brought into the laboratory and exposed to the adult beetle. Though the beetle could tunnel the seed and stay in, it failed to lay eggs, whereas the beetles collected from these plants when exposed to ripe coffee berries were found breeding in them.

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## LITERATURE CITED

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